

Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District 14306 Park Avenue, Victorville, CA 92392 (760) 245-1661

MEDIA RELEASE

PAGE ONE OF TWO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 17, 2011

For further information contact:

Violette Roberts, Community Relations & Education Manager

Mojave Desert AQMD (760) 245-1661 ext. 6104

Electric Mower Exchange Registration to Kick Off April 4

Fairground Event to Feature Mowers Starting at \$59

Victorville – More than 400 emission-free cordless electric mowers will be available starting at \$59 to High Desert residents who register for the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District's Electric Lawn Mower Exchange Event, which is scheduled to take place at the Victorville Fairgrounds on Saturday, April 16, 2011. Online registrations for the exchange will be accepted starting at 6:00AM on April 4, 2011 at www.NeutonPower.com/MD. Visually-impaired residents or those without Internet access may register by calling 1-877-330-9742.

Only pre-registered residents may bring their operable, gasoline-powered lawn mower – emptied of all gas and oil – to the Fairgrounds on April 16 and exchange it for one of two Neuton lawn mower models: a 14" cutting width mower with a 24 volt battery for \$59 (regular price is \$399) or a 19" mower with a 36 volt battery for \$129 (regular price: \$499). One lawn mower per household will be exchanged during the event, which runs between the hours of 8:00AM and 1:00PM. Mowers from residents who did not pre-register will not be accepted.

According to MDAQMD Executive Director Eldon Heaston, "Lawn mowers and other gasoline powered lawn care equipment are the nation's leading source of off-road emissions; one gas mower can pollute as much as 40 newer-model cars." Heaston adds that although gas-powered mowers being sold today are 90% cleaner than those sold ten years ago, "Only electric mowers produce zero-emissions."

In 2010, the MDAQMD depleted its entire supply of electric mowers just one hour after the exchange began. Because this year's supply is also expected to go quickly, residents are encouraged to register early on April 4. For more information on the Electric Lawn Mower Exchange Event, call the District at (760) 245-1661 ext. 1885 or visit the District's website at www.mdaqmd.ca.gov.